

# First Grade Curriculum

## Daily Routine:

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- Morning Meeting: calendar, weather graph, number chart, place value, tallying and mental math equations
- Daily Oral Language
- Word Work
- Reader's Workshop
- Writer's Workshop
- Math

## Yearlong Curriculum:

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### English Language Arts

#### *Reading*

*With a focus on "just right" books, reading strategies, comprehension and response to literature*

- Reader's Workshop - independent reading time
- Guided Reading Groups – small group instruction
- Shared Reading – whole group reading of big books and poetry
- Read Alouds
- Reading Discovery and Small Group Instruction

#### *Writing*

- Writer's Workshop – independent writing time focusing on personal narratives, informational & procedural writing, persuasive writing and response to literature
- Writing Conventions – capitalization, punctuation, spacing between words and sentences, and legibility

#### *Word Work*

- Phonemic awareness
- Spelling high frequency words & common word families

Our spelling program is Word Matters. Our spelling program begins in January. Each week a list of 10 spelling words will be sent home to review.

#### *Handwriting*

- emphasis on lower case letters & letter formation

- correct pencil grip

## **Common Core Math**

- Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- Numbers and Operations in Base Ten
- Measurement and Data
- Geometry

## **Social Studies**

Scott Foresman Time and Place (Citizenship, People and Places, Our Country, Changes Over Time, Celebrate Cultures, Goods and Services), Native American Culture, Mapping Skills

We incorporate holidays, cultural customs and traditions, and our own classroom and community in our learning.

## **Science**

### *FOSS Hands On Science*

Earth Science - Air and Weather

Life Science - Plants and Animals & Butterflies

Physical Science - Solids and Liquids

Woodside School Garden

## **Social Emotional Learning (SEL)**

The 3 tenants we follow are Know Yourself, Choose Yourself, and Give Yourself. We use “I” statements, create opportunities for students to check in with their feelings, teach children about personal boundaries, practice strategies to help us when we are feeling “escalated”, and begin to reflect on ourselves as a learner and member of a larger learning community.

## **Technology**

We use computers and ipads for a variety of different projects and practice many technology skills:

- How to log on to the computer using our own user name and password
- How to save
- How to print
- How to format text
  - Highlight (click and drag)
  - Use the shift key for upper case letters
  - Change font, size, and color
  - Create lists with numbers and bullets
- How to take photos on Photo Booth
- How to import photos into other applications
- How to use the school website to access other useful sites
  - Accelerated reader
  - Lexia Reading
  - Ixl (standards based math practice)
  - Brain pop junior

## **Design Thinking**

Find it  
Sketch it  
Build it  
Share it

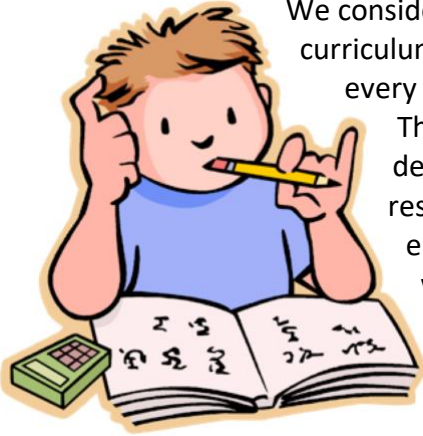
## Special Curriculum

- PE with Ms. Kathy Jones or Music with Dr. Kara D'Ambrosio  
40 minutes /2-3 times a week

Lighty's Class PE Days– Monday & Thursday  
McAdams' Class PE Days – Tuesday & Friday  
(Wednesdays are alternating)

- Art with Ms. Bev Iverson – 40 minutes every Tuesday
- Library – 40 minutes every Wednesday with Mrs. Sharon LaCrosse. Library books should be returned by Tuesday. 1<sup>st</sup> graders are allowed to check out 3 books.
- Technology – 40 minutes a week on the computer lab.
- Reading Discovery with Mrs. Suzanne Drysdale– One on one instruction, 30 minutes daily for select students
- Early Literacy Small Group Instruction with Mrs. Suzanne Drysdale – Small group instruction, 30 minutes daily
- Big Buddies – meet every other week with 4<sup>th</sup> grade students to share reading, art projects, and other activities.
- Field Trips – Hiller Aviation Museum, San Francisco Zoo, Community Walk, and CuriOdyssey

## First Grade Homework



We consider homework an important part of the first grade curriculum. Your first grader will bring home a homework envelope every **MONDAY**. The envelope is to be returned on **THURSDAY**. The first grade team selects homework assignments that are developmentally appropriate. Homework is your child's responsibility and should be done *in pencil* by the child. We encourage parental involvement in providing assistance when needed. Check your child's homework to make sure it is completed and placed in the homework envelope and returned on **THURSDAY**. More information will be sent home in January when homework will begin.

## Snack and Track



Snack and Track is a daily activity that allows each child to take a break and exercise prior to the next set of lessons. During this time, students complete a few laps around the K field and get a snack prior to returning to class. Parents are asked to provide a small serving of fruits and/or vegetables for your child's class based on a weekly sign-up online. We have students with severe nut and seed allergies. You can drop snack off in the morning in the classroom each day or for the whole week.

**PLEASE ONLY FRUITS AND VEGETABLES**

## Allergies

Please be aware and considerate of students who have allergies. Talk to your classroom teacher about specific allergies, questions, and concerns.

Please remind your child why we do not share snacks in first grade. Children often do not know the ingredients in foods and may eat something they are allergic to.

## Birthdays



Birthdays are a very special time in a child's life. It is a time to be shared with friends and classmates. We in first grade want to make each student's birthday a special time. We hope to do so with your support and cooperation. You may bring a simple treat (fruits

and/or vegetables) for your child's class that will be passed out during the day. Please keep in mind that treats are optional.

### Special Events & Class Parties

In first grade we celebrate Halloween, Thanksgiving, Winter Celebration, Valentine's Day, the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School, Chinese New Year and St. Patrick's Day.

### Star Student

Starting in January, each week, a student will be selected to be the *Star Student*. When your child is selected, a questionnaire will be sent home. Please help your child complete the form and have him/her return it to class the following week. Along with the questionnaire, your child will be bringing home a piece of poster board on which he/she can glue pictures of family, pets, favorite activities, special interests, etc. The *Star Student* will have an opportunity to share this poster during his/her special week along with a special item of their choice to share with the class. This poster does not have to be elaborate, just something that reflects his/her individuality and uniqueness!



## Volunteering

In First Grade, there are a variety of ways you can volunteer inside and out of the classroom. These opportunities are listed below. Other opportunities may come up during the year. Please talk to the teachers and Room Parents about how you can volunteer this year.

- Field Trip Drivers & Chaperones
- School Garden
- Class Parties & Holidays
- Special Guest Speaker – Talk to the 1<sup>st</sup> graders about your talent or profession or teach them about something you are an expert on.
- Class Auction Gift

**Please remember what you see and hear in the classroom is confidential. Do not discuss children's academics, social strengths and weaknesses to others. Also remember to be on time, to turn your cell phones off or silent, and follow the directions provided. You may or may not be working with your own child and it is important that you remind your child that you are here to help the whole class.**

## Communication

- Weekly Bulletins are online and available to read on Mondays. If you would like a hard copy, please notify the front office and we will send home a copy on Mondays.
- First Grade Monthly Bulletins will go home the first week of every month and be posted on the first grade website.

**Communication between teachers and parents is best after school or through email. Please do not leave us a voice mail message.**

If your child is going to be absent or tardy, the office and your child's teacher would appreciate an email.

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Kathy McAdams      [kmcadams@woodsideschool.us](mailto:kmcadams@woodsideschool.us)

## Classroom Needs & Donations

We are always in need of classroom supplies and would appreciate any donations. Every month we will send out a notice with specific needs.

## **A First Grader's Responsibilities**

- Students are expected to be respectful, responsible and independent in First Grade.
- Students should bring a backpack to school EVERYDAY. The backpack should be placed on a hook against the wall.
- Students who receive hot lunch are responsible for their own ticket and need to still bring a snack for morning recess and afternoon recess.
- Students need to follow the dress code and wear appropriate clothes and shoes. Students who are not will be sent to the office.
- Students who do not come to class by 8:25 will need to go to the office to obtain a tardy slip. Please refer to the school handbook.
- Students are not to bring any toys, share money or personal items with other students.